



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

Practice Test Resource Material

Grade 6

Reading

New England Common Assessment Program

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Grade 6 Reading

Position Number	Item Type	Correct Answer	Content Cluster	GLE Indicator Number	Depth-of-Knowledge Level	Passage Name	Passage Type
1	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	B	Vocabulary	2	2	Word ID/ Vocabulary	N/A
2	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	A	Vocabulary	1	2	Word ID/ Vocabulary	N/A
3	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	A	Vocabulary	2	2	"In the Fast Lane"	Informational
4	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	A	Initial Understanding: Informational	2	2	"In the Fast Lane"	Informational
5	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	C	Analysis/ Interpretation: Informational	3	2	"In the Fast Lane"	Informational
6	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	C	Analysis/ Interpretation: Informational	2	2	"In the Fast Lane"	Informational
7	Constructed-response (4 pts.)	N/A	Initial Understanding: Informational	3	2	"In the Fast Lane"	Informational
8	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	D	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	2	2	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
9	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	D	Initial Understanding: Literary	2	1	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
10	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	D	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	3	2	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
11	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	B	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	2	1	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary

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Position Number	Item Type	Correct Answer	Content Cluster	GLE Indicator Number	Depth-of-Knowledge Level	Passage Name	Passage Type
12	Constructed-response (4 pts.)	N/A	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	3	2	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
13	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	A	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	3	1	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
14	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	B	Initial Understanding: Literary	1	1	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
15	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	B	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	2	2	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
16	Multiple-choice (1 pt.)	D	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	5	3	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary
17	Constructed-response (4 pts.)	N/A	Analysis/ Interpretation: Literary	5	3	"Anansi and Turtle"	Literary

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Sample Constructed-Response Item (4 points)

- 7 Explain the “rate of living” theory. Use information from the article to support your answer.

Scoring Guide

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of the “rate of living” theory. Response includes relevant information from the article.
3	Response provides an explanation of the “rate of living” theory. Response lacks some relevant information from the article or is not fully developed.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of the “rate of living” theory. Response uses limited information from the article.
1	Response is vague or minimal. OR Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response.

Training Notes:

- All animals have the potential to live the same amount of time.
- Larger animals seem to have slower heart rates and lower metabolism.
- Smaller animals seem to have higher heart rates and faster metabolism.
- The animals with a faster heart rate and/or faster metabolism use up their allotments faster. Therefore, animals with faster heartbeats would live shorter lives; animals with slower heartbeats would live longer lives.

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Sample 4-Point Response

The rate of living theory is one that is no longer believed. The theory is that larger animals live longer than smaller animals. A large animal, say whales would be able to out live a human. All of the animals have the potential to live the same amount of time. But if the animal had a fast heartbeat and higher metabolisms they go through their allotment more quickly than humans. A massive elephant has a heartbeat of 28 per minute, therefore he could out-live a hummingbird with a really fast heartbeat.

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Sample 3-Point Response

This is the "Rate of Living" theory. Scientists say that bigger animal like whales and humans, live longer than small animals, like cats or dogs. They say small animals have a faster heart beat than bigger animals. Since the smaller animals hearts are faster and work more, they tire out (or die) much faster. Now bigger animals hearts work much slower so the bigger animals hearts don't tire out. This is why bigger animals live longer. That was the "Rate of Living" theory.

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Sample 2-Point Response

Scientist noticed that larger animals, such as humans and whales, outlive smaller ones such as dogs, cats, birds and mice. The Bigger the body, or so it seemed, the longer of the life span. Scientist called this the "rate of living".

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Sample 1-Point Response

basically they are saying that
the slower the heart beat per minute
the longer the animal lives.

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Reading

Sample Constructed-Response Item (4 points)

- 12 Explain how Anansi tricks Turtle. Use information from the story to support your answer.

Scoring Guide

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of how Anansi tricks Turtle. Response includes relevant information from the story.
3	Response provides an explanation of how Anansi tricks Turtle. Response lacks some relevant information from the story or is not fully developed.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how Anansi tricks Turtle. Response uses limited information from the story.
1	Response is vague or minimal. OR Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response.

Training Notes:

How Anansi tricks Turtle:

- Anansi invites the turtle into his house to eat.
- Anansi sends Turtle out to wash his dirty hands.
- Turtle washes his hands in the creek, but his hands get dirty again from crawling back on a dusty trail.
- Anansi sends Turtle back to wash his hands again.
- Turtle comes back to the house with clean hands, but Anansi has already eaten all the food.

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Sample 4-Point Response

Anansi tricks Turtle by telling him he had to wash his hands before eating. Turtle had to go to the creek to wash his hands. He took the trail back Anansi's house, and the dirt got his hands dirty just as Anansi had planned. Turtle did this twice and by the time he walked on the grass to stop any chance of dirt attracting to his hands, Anansi had eaten all the dinner.

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Sample 3-Point Response

Anansi tricks the Turtle because Turtle thinks that he is going to get a meal, but instead Anansi tells Turtle to wash his hands. Every time Turtle washes his hands at the creek, he had to crawl back to Anansi's house his hands would get dirty and in that time Anansi had stuffed all the food in her mouth. So Turtle did not get any food.

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Sample 2-Point Response

Anansi tricked Turtle by letting him eat food, but his hands are dirty. So he has to wash them. But as he comes back, his feet get dirty. Making Anansi have more food.

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Sample 1-Point Response

He keeps on telling turtle
he has to wash his hands before
eating and then Anansi eat all of
it.

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Reading

Sample Constructed-Response Item (4 points)

- 17 Did Turtle treat Anansi fairly? Explain your answer by using information from the story as support.

Scoring Guide

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of the student's opinion of whether or not Turtle treated Anansi fairly. Response includes relevant information from the story.
3	Response provides an explanation of the student's opinion of whether or not Turtle treated Anansi fairly. Response lacks some relevant information from the story or is not fully developed.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of the student's opinion of whether or not Turtle treated Anansi fairly. Response uses limited information from the story.
1	Response is vague or minimal. OR Response only provides a personal opinion with no text support.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response.

Training Notes:

Student interpretations may vary. Any explanation given that is logical and supported by information from the story is acceptable.

- Some students may see Anansi as the bad character that is taught a lesson; people should share what they have with people in need. Turtle was tired, hungry, and had traveled all day. Anansi clearly did not want to share and was mean to Turtle. Turtle reacted by inviting Anansi to visit him and to share Turtle's dinner.
- Some students may see revenge as wrong. Was Turtle getting even or was he teaching Anansi a lesson? Turtle might have shown Anansi the right way to treat a guest by actually sharing with him. In this interpretation, both characters are wrong—one because of his greed and trickery, the other because of his revenge and trickery.

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Sample 4-Point Response

Turtle treated Anansi as fairly as Anansi did Turtle. Anansi used a common rule to distract Turtle while he ate all the food. Then when Anansi went to Turtle's house Turtle used a common rule to keep Anansi away from the food. Anansi tried to trick Turtle into leaving, and he did by telling him to go wash his hands. Turtle wanted payback, and he got it. He made Anansi take off his coat, which had all the weight, that was keeping Anansi underwater. Then Anansi floated right back up to the top of the water.

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Sample 3-Point Response A

No I don't think that turtle treated Anansi fairly because 2 wrangs don't make a right. I don't think that both of them treated each other fairly. because Anans knew that turtle had to crawl everywhere but he still criticised turtle for having dirty hands. Also I think that turtle didn't treat anansi fair because he knew that Anansi put pebbles in his pockets to make him sink but still he made him take off his coat.

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Sample 3-Point Response B

Yes, Turtle treated Anansi fairly because when Turtle was at Anansi's house Anansi didn't share his meal with Turtle at all and ate his yams while Turtle got cleaned up. Then when Turtle invited Anansi to his home for a meal Anansi couldn't stay underwater, so turtle ate his delicious meal and Anansi got none.

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Sample 2-Point Response A

I think Turtle did not treat Anansi fairly because when Anansi was mean to Turtle when he came over that doesn't mean that he should do the same thing because two wrongs don't make a right. that why I think Turtle did not treat Anansi fairly.

Sample 2-Point Response B

Turtle did treat Anansi fairly because whenever turtle needed a meal Anansi tricked him out of eating by saying that Turtle's hands have to be clean to eat, even though Turtle walks on them.

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Sample 1-Point Response

No, the Turtle didn't treat Anansi fairly even though Anansi was not fair to the turtle because Anansi got down there once. But, the turtle had a chance to eat some food if he washed his hands.